

You Have Eternal Life

(1 John 5:13-15)

The verses above are designed to give us assurance and confidence in our faith.

- John says we can have confidence that God will hear our prayers (vss. 14-15).
- We can also have confidence that we have eternal life (vs. 13).

The latter point is actually quite radical in the mind of many disciples. For so many of God's people live their lives every day in doubt as to whether or not they have eternal life. They have serious doubts in regards to their salvation.

This thinking comes from Satan! It is not of God! In 1 John 5:13, the apostle says if you are a Christian you can KNOW that you have eternal life. How can you know?

I. If you are obeying God's commandments (1 John 2:3-5; 3:24; 5:2-3).

A. What commandments are John talking about?

1. Not the Law of Moses (Colossians 2:14; Romans 7:6-7).
2. Not the commandments of men (Matthew 15:7-9; Galatians 1:10).
3. Instead the commandments found in the Law of the Gospel.
4. The Lord emphasized the need to obey all of His commandments constantly (Matthew 28:19-20; John 12:48; 14:15, 21; 15:14).

B. Are you obeying God's commandments?

1. When it comes to becoming a Christian (Mark 16:16; Acts 17:30; Romans 10:9)?
2. When it comes to spiritual growth (2 Peter 3:18; Matthew 28:20)?
3. When it comes to worship (John 4:24)?
4. When it comes to evangelism (Matthew 28:19)?
5. When you sin as a Christian (1 John 1:8-10)?
6. When you have a problem with a brother (Matthew 18:15)?

II. If you are loving your brother (1 John 3:13-15, 23; 4:19-21).

A. Why must we love?

1. God is love (1 John 4:8).
2. We can't honestly say we love God if we don't (1 John 4:19-21).
3. It is a mark of true discipleship (John 13:35).
4. It is commanded (John 13:34; 15:17; 1 John 4:21).

B. Those who are not loving their brother have reason to doubt their salvation. But those who are, do not!

III. If you are truly committed to the Lord (1 John 3:23; 5:13).

A. The word "believe" used here involves commitment and trust.

B. It is something that the Lord Himself emphasized, (Luke 9:23; John 8:31-32). Those who are truly trying to give God their best service, ought not to live with doubt and uncertainty.

Conclusion: Jesus died so we can have eternal life !